

**LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY  
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**FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT**

**LS 6663**

**BILL NUMBER: SB 204**

**NOTE PREPARED: Dec 16, 2003**

**BILL AMENDED:**

**SUBJECT:** POW/MIA Flag to Be Flown at State Buildings.

**FIRST AUTHOR:** Sen. Paul

**FIRST SPONSOR:**

**BILL STATUS:** As Introduced

**FUNDS AFFECTED: X GENERAL  
DEDICATED  
FEDERAL**

**IMPACT:** State

**Summary of Legislation:** This bill requires the POW/MIA flag to be flown with the flags of the United States and Indiana at all facilities operated by the Department of Administration and at interstate highway rest areas. The bill also provides that the flag may be flown at state police posts.

**Effective Date:** July 1, 2004.

**Explanation of State Expenditures:** This bill will require the POW/MIA to be flown at properties overseen by the Department of Administration and at interstate highway rest areas when the flags of the United States and State of Indiana are flown. The requirement is estimated to increase state expenditures by \$11,000 to \$27,000 each year.

The bill will impact approximately 294 flag displays at state-operated facilities; including the 34 rest areas on the state's interstate highways. At retail, a 3' X 5' POW/MIA flag costs about \$35. Due to wear and tear, flags that are flown year-round are replaced every four to six months. Based on the retail cost estimate, the cost of flying the POW/MIA flag year-round is estimated to be about \$26,000 each year. However, due to the large number of POW/MIA flags the Department would need to purchase, it is possible that the state could negotiate a lower price for the flags. Under current purchasing agreements, the state is able to obtain Indiana state flags for about \$15 each. If the state were able to obtain POW/MIA flags for the same price, the state's cost would be about \$11,000 annually.

*Background Information:* The POW/MIA flag is currently flown at the Statehouse and the state's highway rest stops on Memorial Day and, beginning on the third Friday each September, for the number of days equal to the number of Indiana MIAs from the Vietnam War. In 2003, the flag was flown for 60 days.

**Explanation of State Revenues:**

**Explanation of Local Expenditures:**

**Explanation of Local Revenues:**

**State Agencies Affected:** Department of Administration; Department of Transportation; State Police.

**Local Agencies Affected:**

**Information Sources:** Chuck Coffey, Department of Administration, 232-0215.

**Fiscal Analyst:** John Parkey, 317-232-9854.